Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Spann, 601.359.6680

Date: February 14, 2001

## LEE COUNTY AWARDED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT

JACKSON, Miss. – Lee County was recently awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$427,500 for Economic Development Public Improvements. The original application was submitted on behalf of Tecumseh Products Company.

Tecumseh Products is expanding their existing manufacturing facility. The company is investing over \$2,000,000 in the project. The county will use the grant funds to construct turn lanes along Highway 145 to serve the facility.

Tecumseh proposes to hire 100 employees as a result of this project. At least 51% of these positions will be made available to persons from low- and moderate-income households.

"The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) is proud that our partnership at the local level creates a foundation for economic growth," commented J.C. Burns, Executive Director of MDA.

CDBG is a program of the Community Services Division of the Mississippi Development Authority. Among the division's goals are assisting communities in analyzing their strengths and weaknesses, involving their leadership in economic development, planning development strategies, strengthening development organizations, and implementing and financing community projects. The Community Services Division also administers other Economic Development grant and loan programs.

###